



Department of
Health

Public Health Laboratory Deputy Director Tennessee Public Health Laboratory

Job Description:

The Deputy Public Health Laboratory (PHL) Director supports the PHL Director and acts for the Director in his/her absence or as directed by the PHL Director. This position provides leadership to assure that the laboratory provides relevant and accurate scientific data essential for disease surveillance, prevention, and control as well as environmental protection. The Deputy may address legal/contractual issues, strategic planning, fiscal responsibility and billing, quality assurance and licensure, and helps develop laboratory-related public health policy with the PHL Director. The Deputy helps ensure that the laboratory can respond to statewide public health threats caused by common or emerging biological, chemical, and radiological agents, including those that may be disseminated through deliberate acts of terrorism.

Responsibilities:

Duties require specific expert technical knowledge in an area of microbiology, molecular biology and/or Newborn Screening and clinical expertise, general knowledge of Environmental Chemistry, Radiochemistry and/or Aquatic Biology and knowledge of laboratory administration.

- Expand and sustain a high profile for the TN PHL within the public health system
- Expand and maintain relationships with key state and local public health agencies so that the resources of the TN PHL can be applied most effectively to important public health issues.
- Build bridges between TN PHL Laboratory and other public and private sector entities so that partnerships may be forged in service to improving the health of our citizens and their communities.
- Promote the work of the TN PHL Laboratory so that others appreciate its important contributions and see it as a valuable state resource.
- Serve on state and national committees and boards as a representative of the TN PHL.
- Oversee strategic planning and accreditation activities for the TN PHL. Provide leadership to TN PHL Senior Staff by helping develop and implement short and long-range organizational goals, objectives and policies that support strategic goals and continuous improvement efforts.
- Evaluate effectiveness of TN PHL activities and recommend course changes that are in the best interest of Public Health.
- Develop and recommend to the Director, succession planning strategies that both develop and expand the competencies of TN PHL staff and attract people with skills needed in a 21st century public health laboratory.

Preferred Education/Experience:

- Must hold a doctorate level degree in a laboratory science. Preferred candidate would have postdoctoral training in laboratory management and meet CMS/CLIA requirements for high complexity laboratory director.
- Must have extensive knowledge of quality assurance including proficiency testing, quality control, and laboratory procedures, as well as method verification and validation procedures
- Must have working knowledge of epidemiology and public health
- Must have working knowledge of laboratory equipment, instrumentation and terminology of the subject areas
- Must have knowledge of the hazards of working with potentially hazardous materials and the appropriate safety precautions to avoid adverse health effects
- Must be capable of understanding and accurately following complex oral and written instructions and of reading technical materials
- Must be capable of independent work with minimal supervision
- Must demonstrate excellent organization skills
- Must be able to express oneself clearly, concisely, and professionally in verbal and written communication using Microsoft Office products (Word, Excel, Outlook and PowerPoint)
- Must have the ability to research and develop policies and procedures and training materials and have the ability to implement necessary changes with the Laboratory Director's approval
- Must demonstrate excellent leadership and managerial skills

Benefits:

The State of Tennessee offers a comprehensive benefit package which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, retirement plans and accrued leave.

Equal Employment Opportunity:

The Tennessee Department of Health is an Equal Opportunity, Equal Access, Affirmative Action Employer.

For more information or to submit your resume for consideration, please email Jessica Bryant at Jessica.Bryant@tn.gov.